

**WAC 173-340-370 Expectations for cleanup action alternatives.**

The department has the following expectations for the development of cleanup action alternatives under WAC 173-340-350 and the selection of cleanup actions under WAC 173-340-360. These expectations represent the types of cleanup actions the department considers likely results of the remedy selection process described in WAC 173-340-350 through 173-340-360; however, the department recognizes that there may be some sites where cleanup actions conforming to these expectations are not appropriate. Also, selecting a cleanup action that meets these expectations shall not be used as a substitute for selecting a cleanup action under the remedy selection process described in WAC 173-340-350 through 173-340-360.

(1) The department expects that treatment technologies will be emphasized at sites containing liquid wastes, areas contaminated with high concentrations of hazardous substances, highly mobile materials, and/or discrete areas of hazardous substances that lend themselves to treatment.

(2) To minimize the need for long-term management of contaminated materials, the department expects that all hazardous substances will be destroyed, detoxified, and/or removed to concentrations below cleanup levels throughout sites containing small volumes of hazardous substances.

(3) The department recognizes the need to use engineering controls, such as containment, for sites or portions of sites that contain large volumes of materials with relatively low levels of hazardous substances where treatment is impracticable.

(4) In order to minimize the potential for migration of hazardous substances, the department expects that active measures will be taken to prevent precipitation and subsequent runoff from coming into contact with contaminated soils and waste materials. When such measures are impracticable, such as during active cleanup, the department expects that site runoff will be contained and treated prior to release from the site.

(5) The department expects that when hazardous substances remain on-site at concentrations which exceed cleanup levels, those hazardous substances will be consolidated to the maximum extent practicable where needed to minimize the potential for direct contact and migration of hazardous substances;

(6) The department expects that, for facilities adjacent to a surface water body, active measures will be taken to prevent/minimize releases to surface water via surface runoff and groundwater discharges in excess of cleanup levels. The department expects that dilution will not be the sole method for demonstrating compliance with cleanup standards in these instances.

(7) The department expects that natural attenuation of hazardous substances may be appropriate at sites where:

(a) Source control (including removal and/or treatment of hazardous substances) has been conducted to the maximum extent practicable;

(b) Leaving contaminants on-site during the restoration time frame does not pose an unacceptable threat to human health or the environment;

(c) There is evidence that natural biodegradation or chemical degradation is occurring and will continue to occur at a reasonable rate at the site; and

(d) Appropriate monitoring requirements are conducted to ensure that the natural attenuation process is taking place and that human health and the environment are protected.

(8) The department expects that cleanup actions conducted under this chapter will not result in a significantly greater overall threat to human health and the environment than other alternatives.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105D RCW. WSR 01-05-024 (Order 97-09A), § 173-340-370, filed 2/12/01, effective 8/15/01.]